

ourvalley.org

"The Voice of Craig County"

March 20, 2024



John Murrill is pictured working on one of his projects.

Murrill

COURTESY PHOTOS

VIRGINIA

Colorful mural goes up in New Castle

A colorful mural will soon cover an empty wall on Main Street in New Castle and is thought to be the first public art in the county. The Craig County Tourism Commission recently received proposals from professional artists for the Craig County Mural which will be located on the apartment-office building adjacent to the Craig County Farmers

Market.

Funding to cover the cost of the project was part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), administered by Virginia Tourism Corporation to all Virginia counties in an effort to lessen the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism industry. Commission members are pleased to announce the project has been awarded to Jon

Murrill of Vinton and the design process is now underway.

Murrill has completed a variety of murals in Virginia Southwest including large along scale projects the Roanoke River Greenways, public park spaces, and many private businesses and buildings. Murrill's murals are all original concepts and are tailored to each space and

client. He is familiar with Craig County as he is a former art teacher at Craig County High School. Murrill accompanies his community mural work with the incorporation of "community painting days." Citizens will be invited to work with Murrill on designated days where he engages volunteers in painting

See Mural, page 2

Mud runs vendors needed

It's almost that time again. The first of three New Castle Mud Runs for this year is coming up on May 25, 2024, and craft vendors are needed. This is an exciting event that promises a thrilling experience for all participants. Held at Country Campground off of US 311 at 202 Country Campground Drive, New Castle, Virginia, this mud run is all about conquering obstacles, getting dirty and having a blast.

Right now, Faye Powers seeks craft vendors for all three dates of this event. Sell your wares and get down and dirty on May 25, July 20 and Sept. 28. If interested in being a craft vendor at all or any of these dates, call Powers at (540) 330-8633. There is no vendor fee except for the \$10 per person entrance fee. The entry fee for is for all spectators aged 8 years and older. Younger folks get in free. Gates open at 9 a.m. and the race starts at 1 p.m.

Whether you're a participant or a spectator, the New Castle Mud Run promises an unforgettable experience filled with mud, laughter, and camaraderie. So get ready to embrace the chaos and make some muddy memories!For additional information, contact Corie Trivette at (540) 597-4019 or check out the Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/people/ New-Castle-Mud-Run/100090820804447/.

-Anita Firebaugh, Special to The New Castle Record

ARPA funding approved

The Craig County Board of Supervisors at its March 7, 2024 meeting approved the use of ARPA funding in the amount of \$996,631 to be used for the county's new emergency radio system. The new equipment will allow the sheriff and all county emergency services to communicate better with each other and to access communications with neighboring county emergency services in order to provide better health and safety services to residents.

The total cost of the radio system is \$4.7 million. -Anita Firebaugh, Special to The New Castle Record

Gun ordinance discussed by supervisors

An ordinance that has been on the books for 50 years came under scrutiny by the Craig County Board of Supervisors in recent meetings. As a result, the Board voted at its March 7, 2024 meeting to hold a public hearing to repeal an ordinance prohibiting the discharge of firearms within residential districts on April 4, 2024 at 6 p.m. in the Circuit Court Courtroom at the Craig County Courthouse.

The supervisors in 1973 had adopted an ordinance that states, "It is unlawful for any person to shoot any gun, pistol, or other firearm within the limits of residential districts of the county, except in the case of urgent necessity. This section shall not apply to licensed gun dealers within the confines of their business property." The local ordinance makes the violation a class 4 misdemeanor.

Supervisor Jordan Labiosa asked about the ordinance. According to the minutes of the February meeting, the supervisors agreed that the county code should be repealed as redundant. Instead, the county would rely on Virginia Code § 18.2-56.1 (A), which states: "It shall be unlawful for any person to handle recklessly any firearm so as to endanger the life, limb or property of any person. Any person violating this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor."

The state statute also says that, "Any person who handles any firearm in a manner so gross, wanton, and culpable as to show a reckless disregard for human life and causes the serious bodily injury of another person resulting in permanent and significant physical impairment is guilty of a Class 6 felony."

there were state statutes he could use if necessary. "We don't have a lot of issues over here," the sheriff said of gun complaints. "We've had some pop up occasionally but a lot of times it's more related to the noise of the shooting than its being unsafe. Sometimes the bullets are going on somebody's property maybe damaging trees or something, but most of the time it's somebody doing extended shooting. We have a noise ordinance that would cover that. It's not something that we deal with a lot."

Labiosa in a follow-up email of March 13 stated that he pursued removal of the ordinance for several reasons. "In my view, the original aim of the County Code section, which prohibits the discharge of firearms within any residential zone, was intended to prevent reckless firearm use. However, the Code of Virginia (§18.2-56.1.) already outlaws the reckless handling of firearms that could endanger human life or property.

Given this, repealing the County Code section to strongly uphold 2nd Amendment Rights seems both logical and necessary," Labiosa wrote.

He noted that the county code as written, "includes prohibitions in rural residential zones, which constitute a significant part of our county. These zones are characterized by larger distances between homes than in more densely populated areas, naturally reducing any risk associated with firearm discharge."

He also pointed out that neighboring counties do not have a similar ordinance and that, "Craig County's prior declaration as a "2nd Amendment Sanctuary" by the Board of Supervisors underlines our commitment to protecting the rights of firearm owners. Amending this code section aligns with that declaration."

In January, the Board began discussions about repealing the ordinance after

Sheriff Trevor Craddock stated in a follow-up phone call on March 13 that the supervisors had discussed the matter with him and he had told them

-- AJF, Special to The New Castle Record



Participants made barn quilt style decor. The event was recently held at Hive Cafe.

MORGAN DOWDY PHOTO The theme was Spring bunny.

Dowdy Designs hosts Spring Paint Event at Hive Cafe

Morgan Dowdy **Contributing writer**

Craig County residents, as well as a few out of town, recently enjoyed a spring bunny themed paint event at Hive Cafe, hosted by Dowdy Designs. This was the second paint event hosted by the two businesses. While guests sipped on lattes and enjoyed baked goods, they tapped into their creative sides to paint barn quilt style decor. One of the best, and most appreciated, aspects of these paint events is that they are beginner friendly and no artistic skill or experience is necessary or required! Although the wooden template was the same for everyone, each participant was able to choose their own color scheme, which meant no two were completely alike. The finished products all became a beautifully unique keepsake.

Paula Holtman, participant, stated, "It was great and she is so organized! The peanut butter and chocolate latte was delicious too. I can't wait for the next one!" Another attendee, Tina Crawford, exclaimed, "Such a fun way to spend an afternoon!" Other participants had similar sentiments and fun times were had by all. In fact, about half of this event's participants were repeat customers from the first (Valentine's Day) paint event. The success of this paint event highlighted the community's continued enthusiasm for creative expression and the power of art and events to bring people together.

The Kelleys, owners of Hive Cafe, and Dowdy Designs also have a passion for bringing their community together. It is their belief that small towns thrive on strong community bonds, and they wanted to contribute to that by creating opportunities for people to come together, share experiences, and build lasting memories. It is their hope to continue building their partnership by providing a monthly paint or craft event. Paint event signups are typically three to four weeks prior to the event date and spots are limited. Spots can be secured by signing up at the Hive Cafe or on Facebook. Prepayment is required, and prices vary depending on the design.

The next Paint Event design will be released on Facebook on Monday, March 18, and the actual event has been scheduled for Sunday, April 14 at 2 p.m. The theme is a highland cow. Those who aren't on Facebook but are interested in participating, please visit Hive Cafe during their new business hours, Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. -2 p.m. and 4-8 p.m. to see what the next design will be and secure your spot. While there, check out the full menu offerings including breakfast served all day, burgers, sandwiches, salads and more. While leaving, take a look around the gift shop, which is filled with a beautiful array of handcrafted goods, all sourced from local small businesses.

PAGE 2 · WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024 · THE NEW CASTLE RECORD FROM THE ARCHIVES

Adventure "Academy" helps at-risk kids

Castle Record

It's been five years since Craig County welcomed Col. (Ret.) Eugene Nervo and his camping program, Wilderness Adventures at Eagle Landing.

On September 20, Nervo will add another aspect of his commitment to youth as the doors open in the Oak Lodge at Craig Healing Springs Retreat Center to admit the first students of the Wilderness Leadership Academy.

"We've been putting this together for the past three years," Nervo said.

Five students, two teachers and two counselors are currently on board, but registration is open year-round, he explained. The eight-and-a-halfmonth program is tailored for a maximum of 20 students.

The Academy offers a dynamic and powerful residence program for young men age 13 through 17. It is dedicated to the highest standards and principles of academic excellence, physical well-being, social norms and moral courage.

What sounds like it might not be for everyone, is actually for those who need it most-teenagers identified as "at-risk." This includes those with learning disabilities, social maladjustments, strained family relationships, neglect and abuse.

Not accepted are those with drug and alcohol dependency, firesetting behaviors, serious physically aggressive/assaultive behaviors, psychotic diagnosis, moderate to serious physical or sensory handicaps requiring individualized care as well as those who are depressed/suicidal and currently in need of hospitalization or otherwise a threat to self or community.

However, the Academy is neither a correctional nor a detention facility and candidates may be referred by individuals, therapists, families, the Department of Social Services, school

Mural page 1

school year's tuition is \$24,000. The toll-free number is 800-574-8155.

The program coordinator, Cheryl Austin, holds an MS in learning disabilities and has 13 years of experience in special and therapeutic education. Teachers are certified in special education and an education specialist and psychologist provide professional counseling for students.

The program is aimed at improving the resident's academic, social, physical, emotional and moral wellbeing with the goal of preparing the student for a full and satisfying adult life. It combines a traditional classroom education setting with wilderness therapy to create a powerful experience that can change a young person's life, Nervo said.

The unique educational process occurs on site in conformance with the Commonwealth of Virginia Public School Code.

The wilderness adventure therapy component is the nucleus of the residence program and the Academy is affiliated with Wilderness Adventure at Eagle Landing, a year-round outdoor adventure program that will provide instruction by skilled experts in rock climbing, rappelling, canoeing, kayaking, caving, mountain biking, Native American skills, adventure trail, high ropes, low ropes and climbing wall.

powerful motivational Two education components are the basis of the program: experiential education (based on experiencing the factual information in textbooks) and wilderness therapy.

Experiential learning is the foundation of the academic program.

Science is taught by seeing, touching and feeling.

History is taught by acting out historical events and visiting historical



sites and museums.

Current events are taught by inciting and interest in what is happening in local, state and national news and becoming involved through CNN and the news media. In fact, the students are required daily to watch one hour of CNN news and turn in a written report.

The average school day is six hours of classroom and experiential instruction, five days per week. One day of wilderness experience or outdoor adventure is scheduled each week, including the adventure skills as well as farming skills and animal husbandry. A three-hour session featuring a visit from an area resident with a particular career or profession is scheduled each week and a mentor program will be developed from the professional visits program.

And there's plenty of camping.

Once a month the students visit a place of interest such as a museum, theater or sporting event and in-house athletes can participate in organized

FROM THE NCR ARCH

sports such as soccer, tennis, wrestling and cross county running for scrimmages with nearby high schools.

Courtesy, respect for others and high moral students are strong components of the program. Religious observances are encouraged and supported.

"The Academy is committed to providing a quality program and to being a good neighbor to the host community," Nervo said. Consequently, clients are carefully screened to ensure the integrity of the program, safety to the community and maximum development of others at the Academy.

The overall objective-to motivate participation and learning-is a noble cause for any educator these days.

But Nervo remains humble.

"It's a confusing world out there and there are so many harmful options for teenagers. At the Academy, we want to provide them with a light, or even a spark, for setting their goals and success at achieving them."

-Prepared By Lisa King



COUR

Murrill has completed a variety of murals in Southwest Virginia including large scale projects along the Roanoke River Greenways, public park spaces, and many private businesses and buildings.

sessions that are comfortable for any skill level. The final design is expected to be unveiled at the April 20th Grand Opening of

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the Farmers Market. Prep work on the building and painting will begin as soon as weather conditions permit. For more about the artist, visit www.murrillart.com.

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Recipe of the Week



When Life is bananas, what do you do? I make banana bread. Banana bread is a quick bread that is more like a cake. Quick breads are divided into two categories; those made with dough and those made with batters. Dough quick breads include biscuits or scones, while batter quick breads include zucchini bread, cornbread, and muffins. Unlike other bread recipes, quick breads are leavened with baking powder instead of yeast. This allows them to be baked sooner than yeast risen dough. Bananas appeared in the US in the 1870s but it took a while for them to appear as ingredients in desserts. The advent of refrigeration at the turn of the 20th century made bananas a staple in the American household. Bananas were used as a garnish on cakes or puddings until baking powder was invented in 1856 by a Harvard chemistry professor. Baking powder began to be commercially produced at the start of the 1900s. The



first quick banana bread recipe was published by Pillsbury in 1933.

I always have some bananas around. Betsy likes them, since in moderation; bananas are a good treat for dogs. They are high in potassium, vitamins, biotin, fiber and copper. They are low in sodium and cholesterol but because they are high in sugar, they are only a treat. This week's recipe is for banana bread, a recipe that I grew up with. My mom made it often and it changed depending on her mood. She would make a loaf and freeze it so that we could take it camping with us. Sliced and toasted over a fire, it made a great breakfast. She added chocolate chips or walnuts at times. Most bakes included frosting. She used cream cheese or peanut butter frosting the most. This bread freezes well too.

Banana bread 1 cup sugar

1 teaspoon baking soda ¹/₂ teaspoon salt 2 bananas 2 eggs ¹/₂ cup solid Crisco Mix together sugar, flour, salt and baking soda. In a blender, mix together bananas, eggs and Crisco. Add wet ingredients to the dry ingredients and mix. Pour into loaf pan and bake for 1 hour at 350°F. Remove from pan when cool and store in the refrigerator.

Peanut butter frosting

1 ¹/₄ cups flour

1 heaping cup of smooth peanut

butter (I use Jiff) 1/4 cup softened butter (not melted) 4 tablespoons milk ¹/₂ teaspoon vanilla Dash of salt 3 cups powdered sugar, sifted

Beat together well the first four ingredients. Add the powdered sugar one cup at a time and mix until smooth. Beat until it is fluffy and light. This takes about four minutes; the color will lighten up as you beat it. If it is too thick, add a few more drops of milk. If it's too thin, add a tablespoon of powdered sugar one at a time. This makes a thick frosting.



COURTESY PHOTO

Virginia Western event puts spotlight on administrative professionals



Hotel Roanoke

COURTESY PHOTO

ROANOKE — The Virginia Community Western College Workforce Solutions Division has announced it will launch "Let Them Shine: An Administrative Professionals Celebration," annual event to recognize and invest in those who fill these key roles in organizations across the region.

'Let Them Shine" will take place at Hotel Roanoke from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 24. The event will provide personal and professional development, with robust guest speakers, activities and a gourmet lunch. There will also be special gifts for attendees.

"We are providing an upscale signature event to allow employers to thank their administrative who fill this professionals cornerstone," said Regina Cook, who is corporate training lead, workforce development specialist, and organizational development strategist at Virginia Western, and emcee for the event.

Guest speakers are:

Mandi Boltinghouse, QMHP: "Building Mental Resilience: The Spark Within"

Linda Corbitt, MBA: "Using Nutrition as a Catalyst for Glowing, Effortless Energy"

Alexander Scott, MBA, M.A.: "Ignite Positive Mindset to Cultivate Strong Relationships"

"These topics recognize the critical capacity of administrative professionals' roles for ongoing operations and organizational sustainability," Cook said.

Tickets are \$149 each, with event parking included, and space is limited. To register, email Regina Cook at rcook@virginiawestern.edu, or call her at (540) 857-6243 (office) or (540) 205-4723 (cell) by April 17. -The New Castle Record

Virginia Western Corporate Training workshops help provide for professionals' growth

ROANOKE — In today's employment climate, workers high-engagement sessions, with are increasingly vocal about tools and methods for participants their desire to be valued in their work. Organizations can invest in employees by giving them resources through corporate training - but to be effective, this training must be relevant and applicable to their daily lives. Virginia Western Community College has designed a new, highimpact workshop series tailored to workplace needs in 2024. Topics range from how to become a leader in helping navigate organizational change, to overcoming compassion fatigue for health care professionals. Of particular note is a three-part series focusing on mental wellness in the workplace.

"These workshops are all one-day, to take back and immediately implement," said Regina Cook, who is corporate training lead, workforce development specialist, and organizational development strategist at Virginia Western. Each workshop runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is held at the Natural Science Center on Virginia Western's campus, near the two-acre Community Arboretum. Coffee, snack and lunch are all included, with free parking provided.

AI & The Workplace: Hands-On Horizons

designed to meet a wide range of workplaces beyond the corporate Balancing Act: Mental Wellness world. "Government agencies and other organizations, nonprofits – all are welcome," Cook said. "These workshops will give strategies for members of many sectors to thrive amid today's challenges." Participants may enroll now for workshops that begin March 20 with "Balancing Act," the first part of the mental wellness series. For more information about these workshops or other workforce development trainings, email Regina Cook at rcook@ virginiawestern.edu, or call her at (540) 857-6243 (office) or (540) 205-4723 (cell).

Sessions cover needs that Virginia Western's Corporate Training have worked with community partners to identify. Workshops offered this year will include:

in the Workplace

Change Makers: Change Leadership & Organizational Agility

Compassion Fatigue: Remaining Connected to Your Patients

Continuity Operational of Processes (COOP)

for Critical Thinking Manufacturers

Mental Health Matters: Mental Wellness in the Workplace

Perspective v. Perception: Re-Engineering Workplace Communication

The Emotionally Intelligent Workplace: Mental Wellness in the Workplace

Cook noted that these are

-The Salem Times-Register

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BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

11599 Cumberland Gap Road/Rt. 42, New Castle, 864-5242; church phone:544-7040 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m., Choir Tuesday 7:30p.m., Youth Outreach and Missions Program. Rev. San Kang.

CHESTNUT GROVE CHURCH

Duane Wente, Minister, Rt. 42, New Castle, 540-864-5692. Sunday: Worship 10:00 a.m.

CORNERSTONE CHURCH

Pastor Don Brown, Corner of Salem and Wagner, New Castle, 580-3228. Sunday Worship 10:30am (Children meet separately, Nursery provided). Bible Study - Wednesday 6p Teens - Wednesday 6p. Ministries: Men, Ladies, Young Adult, and Seniors. Times vary, call for details.

CRAIG HEALING SPRINGS CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

Pastor - Kenneth W. Davis, Jr., 6 Grannys Branch Road (Johns Creek), New Castle, Phone: 864-6102. Sunday School at 10 am. Sunday Worship at 11 am every Sunday. Fellowship meal after Sunday Worship on second Sundays. Everyone is welcome!

CRAIG VALLEY BAPTIST

171 Salem Avenue, New Castle, 864-5667; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m., Wednesday: Prayer Service and Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Youth Group 6:30-8:00PM, Bible Buddies at 6:30-8:00PM. Transportation provided - call the church. Hearing devices also available. www.craigvalleybaptist.com

CRAIG VALLEY GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP

HWY 621, Pastor Roy Lee Law Jr., "Jay", 864-8984. Sunday School 10:00am; Worship 11:00am., Wednesday night Bible study 7pm, from HWY 311, up HWY 621, 8 miles on left.

CROSSROADS CHURCH

21892 Craigs Creek Road, New Castle. Pastor Gary Burch. 864-7520. Sunday School- 10-10:45AM, Sunday Worship - 11AM-Noon. **FIRST BAPTIST**

Pastor Kevin Altizer, Corner of Main Street & Boyd Ave., New Castle. Church phone 864-5919. Sunday School 10:00AM, Sunday Worship 11:00AM and 6PM. Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7PM, Youth Group 7:00PM, Reformers Unanimous Addiction Recovery every Friday evening at 7PM.

GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

5530 Catawba Valley Drive, Catawba, VA, 540-384-7075. Pastor Loraine Taylor, agladypastor@msn.com. Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Evening service at 7:00 p.m.; Youth (ages 13-18) & Super Church (ages 4-12) Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. You can also watch on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m. www.graceassemblycatawaba.org

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

159 Old Railroad Ave, New Castle, 540-864-PRAY, Sunday School 9:30AM, Sunday Worship Service 10:00AM, Wednesday Night Services 7:00PM.

HEBRON UNITED METHODIST

Pastor Chanmi Lee, 347-684-2607, Rt. 606, 1981 Caldwell Mt. Rd., New Castle, 540- 400-3419. Worship 11:15AM.

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST

Rev. Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.

LEVEL GREEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

3388 Cumberland Gap Rd. Newport, Duane Wente, Minister, 540-544-7179. Sunday School 10:00am, Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am, Children's Church 11:00am. Choir Practice, bi-weekly 7:00pm, Ladies meeting first Monday of each month at 7:00pm.

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST

Pastor Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle, 540-525-7662. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.

MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN

4199 Craig Valley Drive, New Castle, Jonathan Lee, pastor, 864-6622. Sunday: Worship Service 9:00 a.m., Children's Church 9:15 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

NEW CASTLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH "WHERE YOUR HEART CAN FEEL THE DIFFERENCE"

282 Salem Ave., New Castle; 864-5212; Pastor Bill Frazier. Sunday Service: 10 A.M.; Wednesday night Bible study at 6:00 P.M. for K-5; If you need a ride to church, please contact Calvin Duncan by 8 P.M. on Saturday at 864-5321; www.nc-cc.org.

NEW CANTERBURY PENTECOSTAL FELLOWSHIP

Pastor John D. Abbott, Hwy 621 (10 miles), phone: 540-580-5837, Sunday Prayer 10:00-10:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday Service 6:00 pm.

PAXTON CHAPEL

Pastor Kenny Davis, 17 Sage Brush Lane, New Castle; "Presenting God's Word Faithfully"; Sunday School 10:00 AM; Sunday Worship Service 11:15 AM; visit us on the web at www.paxtonchapelchurch. com; email at paxtonchapel@ yahoo.com.

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

118 Main Street, New Castle. Service Times: Sunday, Bible classes-10 a.m., Worship-11:00 a.m., Evening Worship-6 p.m.; Wednesday, Bible classes - 7 p.m.

NEW CASTLE UNITED METHODIST

Rev. San Kang, 364 Main St., New Castle, Va. Sunday School 10AM, Worship 11AM; UMW 3rd Wednesday@1PM, Youth and other programs, Bible Studies.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

99 2nd Street, New Castle. Tel: 540-473-3691. Email: StJohnnewcastle@gmail.com. Mass is on Sunday at 11:15 AM.

CRAIG COUNTY COMMUNITY CHURCH -'WELCOME HOME!'

Sunday service 9-10:15am at the VFW building in New Castle. Casual dress if you desire and contemporary praise and worship. If you don't have a 'home' church, please join us at ours with Pastor Gary Burch. Check us out on facebook or contact us at: craigcountycommunitychurch@gmail.com

ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH

Located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttofc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Wendi Craig at 276-340-2445 or email advertise@mainstreetnewspapers.com

OPINION News from the 9th:



Recently, I attended a Republican Whip meeting where Tim Tebow and members of his organization stopped by to say hello to Members of Congress -Tebow was testifying the next day at a House Judiciary Committee hearing on child sexual abuse. One of the women who was with him was a familiar face, Camille Cooper, now the Vice President of Anti-Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation at the Tim Tebow Foundation.

When we first crossed paths, I was in the Virginia House of Delegates and Camille was working to help Bedford County Sheriff Mike Brown, who assisted with the formation of the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program.

The ICAC Task Force Program was formed in 1998 in response to the growing number of children and teens using the internet, the growing number of child predators using the internet in an effort to contact and exploit

underage persons, and the explosion of child sexual abuse images available online.

The Program was started by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), which works in conjunction with a national network of coordinated task forces, made up of local, state, and federal law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies.

Today, there are 61 task forces throughout the country. Sheriff Mike Brown helped start the Southern Virginia (SOVA) ICAC Task Force when the Bedford County Sheriff's Office was selected as one of the first ten task forces in the nation in 1998.

Originally called "Operation Blue Ridge Thunder," the task force covered all of Virginia and West Virginia.

Today, the SOVA-ICAC Task Force covers from far Southwest Virginia to the Delmarva Peninsula on the Eastern Shore and north to Greene County.

Since 1998, the ICAC program has led to more than 134,000 arrests nationwide, based on complaints referred to the program. In 2019 (latest data available), the SOVA-ICAC arrested 291 individuals, identified and/or recused 129 child victims, and examined 745,911 gigabytes for digital evidence.

Internet Crimes Against Children

Though a real and ever-growing threat to our children, the internet and internet related crimes were still relatively new in 1998.

Knowing the importance of the task force, I fought to get funding for Sheriff Brown's program into Virginia's biennial budget.

This wasn't the first time I had done work to combat child sexual abuse.

In 1994, I started drafting legislation relating to civil commitment for sexually violent predators. Passed in 1999, the law allowed the state to hold certain sex offenders at psychiatric facilities after their criminal sentences if the offenders were deemed "sexually violent predators." However, the state did not appropriate the money for the program.

În 2003, I once again fought to get funding for the legislation. Joining me in this quest was then-Attorney General Jerry Kilgore and victim advocate Paul Martin Andrews. A native of Virginia, Andrews was kidnapped in 1973 at age 13, held in an underground box and sexually assaulted by convicted child abuser Richard Ausley for eight days. As an adult, he became an advocate for bolstering Virginia law for continued civil commitments for sex offenders after their criminal sentence ended.

Andrews testified about the urgency for civil commitment for sexually violent predators. Andrews spoke about how Ausley was scheduled to get out of prison soon and research data indicated he would offend again. Once the legislature heard Andrews' testimony, funding for civil commitment of sexually violent predators was passed.

Unfortunately, child sexual abuse and internet crimes against children are still a major problem in our society. As the internet has become more and more a part of our daily lives over the past 30 years, the work to protect our children on the internet remains important.

I continue to look for legislative solutions on the federal level to support victims of sexual abuse and protect our children. For example, I just co-sponsored a bill that would prohibit the importation or transportation of child sex dolls and robots. Currently, people are able to make physical features and "personalities" of robots resemble actual children, even taking their voice from social media to make the robots sound like the child. This can lead to an attitude of normalization for sexual encounters between adults and minors. This bill will help stop that practice and help protect our children.

I am also extremely thankful to the more than 5,400 officials who are part of the ICAC program. They work every day to put child predators in prison and help victims achieve justice.

JETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I had the pleasure of visiting Craig County for the first time both in January and just two weeks ago. I must share with your readers what an absolutely beautiful area I found Craig County to be. On my first trip into New Castle, my son and I were warmly greeted by the owner of The Emporium which is

a marvelous throwback to mercantile stores of my youth. Every visitor should stop in. Our February trip started with lunch at the Pine Top restaurant. The food was fantastic and the staff couldn't have been more hospitable. I was pleased to tour the historic county courthouse and its Civil War Remembrance statue. Craig County is a beautiful place to visit and

I envy the year-round residents who get to enjoy its natural beauty every day. Thank you for two great visits and I look forward to my return.

Very truly yours, Alec A. Pandaleon III

Stopping the comeback of measles

Earlier this year, you may have airports. Unfortunately, these seen media coverage about potential measles exposures at northern Virginia

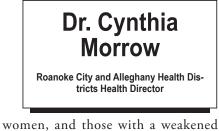
THE NEW CASTLE RECORD **USPS 378-080** (540) 389-9355 1633 W. Main St. Salem, VA 24153 www.ourvalley.org Michael Showell, Publisher Aila Boyd, Executive Editor aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com Brian Hoffman, Sports Editor bhoffman@ourvalley.org Debbie Nixon, Graphic Designer dnixon@ourvalley.com

Edmee CR Hasler, Graphic Designer edmee@mainstreetnewspapers.com Wendi Craig, Advertising Consultant advertise@ourvalley.org

notices may become more common as we face the realities of decreased

vaccine coverage across the world. Vaccine significantly rates decreased during the pandemic, including for rates measles vaccinations. This decrease in vaccine rates was associated with an astonishing 40% increase in global measles deaths in 2022 (CDC). Thankfully, we have not seen a measles case in our districts in years, and we hope that

spots. About 20% of people with measles become sick enough to need to be hospitalized. And even with the best medical care, some people may still die of measles complications such as pneumonia or brain swelling. The most at-risk groups include babies, young children, pregnant



The good news is that measles

immune system.

While it is concerning that we continue to have outbreaks of measles in the United States, we have the tools to do something about it. Most of these outbreaks have occurred when someone traveling from a higher risk country brings the measles virus into communities that have pockets of people who are not vaccinated. We know that if we have effective routine immunization programs, we can prevent these outbreaks. It is far less dangerous and much easier to ensure that our children are protected by being up-to-date on their vaccines than to try to catch up once they have been exposed to a disease. Optimizing our vaccination rates is also the

Give us your view: aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

To subscribe: 540-389-9355

The New Castle Record (USPS 378-080) is published weekly for \$46 a year in Craig County, \$50 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$54 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., 1633 W Main St., Salem, VA 24153. Periodical post-age paid at New Castle, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE NEW CASTLE RECORD 1633 W. Main St., Salem, Va. 24153

The New Castle Record encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified before publication. The Record reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length content and style. News of public interest is solicited from all sections of the county.

bv working together we can keep it that way.

Measles is caused by a highly contagious virus that is spread through breathing, coughing, and sneezing. Measles is so contagious that if one person has it, up to 90% of the people close to that person who are not immune will also become infected. Symptoms include a fever, a runny nose, and an itchy rash of red-brown is easily preventable. The measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine is a safe and effective way to protect your family. Global measle vaccination programs have saved over 50 million lives in the past 20 years (CDC). Two doses of the MMR vaccine provide lifetime protection. Most people typically receive their first dose around age one and their second dose before starting kindergarten (between ages 4-6). We recommend that all adults born since 1957 who have not been vaccinated or have not had measles get vaccinated. If you are not sure whether you have been vaccinated, it is safe to get another measles vaccine.

safest way to protect infants younger than 12 months old who are too young to be vaccinated, and our immunocompromised loved ones.

Vaccines are one of public health's great success stories. Make sure that you and your loved ones are vaccinated to protect from serious diseases that are easily spread. Fortunately, it is easier than ever to get vaccinated: at your doctor's office, your local pharmacy, or your Íocal health department. Call us for an appointment to protect yourself against measles and many other preventable diseases.





Smith, Dennis Cornell

Dennis Cornell Smith, 78 of Paint Bank, VA died March 17, 2024, at his home. He is preceded in death by his parents, Woodrow and Irene Smith and grandparents, Brian and Viola Smith and Claude and Lucille Walton; nephew, B.J. Smith.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Janice Smith; brothers and sisters-in-law, Eddie B. Smith (Vickie) and Ken Smith (Kathy); niece, Danielle Woodard (Noel); nephew, Mark Smith; special nieces, cousins, friends, and hunting buddies.

Denny worked at Hercules Inc. in Covington for 10 years in the 60's. Then he worked for different contractors putting in



wild ginseng. He started

coon hunting with his

dogs at a very young age.

He was happiest riding

through the mountains

in his old truck or UTV

exploring the trails with

friends and family for

all their help and offers

Thank you to all our

construction work. loved Denny the

Denny's cancer journey, severe burn ordeal and his recent illness. Special thanks to Heather @ Sentara Home Health Care and Gentiva Hospice. In lieu of flowers,

water lines and other of help throughout

donations may be made to the Paint Bank Vol. Fire Dept. and Rescue Squad in Denny's memory.

Services Graveside will be held 1:00 PM Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at the Paint Bank Community Cemetery. The family will receive friends 12 PM TO 1 PM before the service at Paint Bank Community Cemetery.

Arrangements by Paitsel Funeral Home. www.paitselfh.com

OT Roadwatch

his dogs.

Interstate 81 **INTERSTATE 81** LANE WIDENING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT EXIT 137 TO EXIT 141 – The \$179 million designbuild project to widen both directions of I-81 between mile markers 136.6 and 141.8 from two to three lanes is underway. Work is being performed along a five-mile section of both northbound and southbound Interstate 81 in Roanoke County and the city of Salem. Barrier wall is in place along the shoulders. Two lanes of I-81 traffic in each direction are expected to remain open during the project with periodic lane closures scheduled during nighttime hours or outside of peak travel times as needed. Drivers can expect the following lane closures and upcoming traffic impacts in this area on northbound and south-

bound I-81: ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC IMPACTS: WORK ZONE SPEED: Drivers should adhere to posted 60 mph speed limits in the work zone and allow space when following a vehicle. Narrow spacing in lanes due to barrier walls, lack of shoulders and lane shifts in various locations, are present. TRAFFIC SHIFTS ON WILDWOOD ROAD: Expect a work zone with traffic shifts and narrow width on Wildwood Road after exiting I-81 southbound on exit 137 heading towards Salem. Southbound and northbound I-81 exit and entrance ramp narrows are possible at Route 311. TRAFFIC SHIFT ON EXIT 140: Drivers may experience a periodic quick merge into traffic onto Thompson Memorial

Drive from the south-

bound exit ramp of exit 140. Work zone located at bottom of the ramp for work on the I-81 bridge at the underpass. RAMP CLOSURES: Ramp closures are possible during nighttime hours, 12 a.m., to 5 a.m. Drivers should watch for message boards dates and times the ramp will be closed. RAMP CLOSURES: Ramp closures are possible during nighttime hours, 12 a.m., to 5 a.m. Drivers should watch for message boards dates and times the ramp will be closed.



Seeking a Full-time Radiologic Technologist for a position at the Craig County Health Center in New Castle, Virginia. This position requires current Rad Tech License. At a minimum 1 year experience, experience with electronic health records, great communication skills, ability to establish a good rapport with patients and staff. Clinic hours are Monday through Friday 8am to 4:30 pm. No Weekends. Benefits include, Retirement Plan, Health Insurance, Disability Insurance, 11 Paid Holidays, Paid Time Off, Radiologic Technologist License renewal reimbursement.

Upcoming public meetings scheduled in Craig County

March 20 CPMT MEETING

CPMT -Department of Social Services at 1

March 28

p.m.

Department of Social Services Board Meeting

at 6:30 p.m. April 4

Board of Supervisors Meeting Monthly will meet at the Craig County Courthouse at

6 p.m. April 8

- Library Board of Trustees Meeting at Craig County Library
- at 6 p.m.
- April 15 Town of New Castle

at New Castle Town Hall

at 7-8 p.m

April 16 Congressman Morgan Griffith citizen comment comment period 9–10:30 a.m at Craig County Courthouse Breakroom. Planning

Town Council Meeting

Commission meeting at Planning Commission at 7:00-8:00p.m.

April 17 CPMT MEETING CPMT - Department of Social Services at 1 p.m.

New Castle Register

May 2 Board of Supervisors

Monthly will meet at the Craig County Courthouse at

6 p.m. May 15

CPMT MEETING CPMT -Department of Social Services at 1

Meeting

p.m. May 20 Town of New Castle Town Council Meeting at New Castle Town Hall

at 7– 8 p.m

May 21

C o n g r e s s m a n Morgan Griffith citizen comment period 9–10:30 a.m at Craig County Courthouse Breakroom. June 6

Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting will meet at the Craig County Courthouse at 6 p.m.

Ĵune 17

Town of New Castle Town Council Meeting at New Castle Town Hall

at 7-8 p.m.

Community Event

Rocket to the Rhythm at CCHS Community Sock Hop will be held Saturday, April 6, 6-10:00 p.m at the high

gymnasium. school Dinner begins at 6 p.m, and live band, 40 Years After, begins 7p.m.Admission: at Adults \$7, Kids \$3. Proceeds will benefit

CCHC, After Prom, Junior Class and FFA. Ongoing

Southwest Feeding Virgnia will be offering food twice a month on the second and third Wednesday of the month from 3-5 p.m. and 4-5 p.m., respectively. All community members are welcome to purchase fresh produce and other canned and boxed items. EBT recipients receive 50% off their fruits and vegetables.

Booster Club of Craig Schools meet on the third Monday of each month in the school cafeteria at 6 p.m. Community members are encouraged to attend and to join to support the kids of Craig County as they need the participation of more people.

-The New Castle Record

PUBLIC NOTICE **BOARD OF EQUALIZATION** FOR **COUNTY OF CRAIG**

Public notice is hereby given that the Board of Equalization for Craig County will meet on the days listed below. The board is comprised of six Craig County citizens that include contractors, financial management specialists and landowners/investors. Our purpose is to hear such complaints, either oral or written, for consideration to INCREASE, DECREASE OR AFFIRM, real estate assessments. Before a change is granted, the taxpayer or agent must provide evidence that property is not uniform and in accordance with other similar properties. The property must be found to be in excess of its fair market value.

Applications must be received by April 22, 2024. Appointments will be scheduled every fifteen minutes. Please contact 540-864-5009 x 8, from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Meetings will be held at the Craig County Courthouse. The date(s) and time(s) are listed below:

> April 22, 2024, 4-8pm May 14, 2024, 1-4pm and 6-8pm May 16, 2024, 4-8pm

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 15.2-1427, notice is hereby given that the Craig County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on April 4, 2024 at 6 PM in the Circuit Court Courtroom of the Craig County Courthouse at 303 Main Street, New Castle, Virginia 24127.

The purpose of the public hearing will be to receive public comment on the proposed adoption of an ordinance repealing Sec. 30-2 of the Craig County Code which currently prohibits the discharge of firearms within residential districts of the County.

A copy of the full text of the ordinance is on file for inspection during normal business hours in the office of the County Administrator at 108 Court Street, New Castle VA 24127. If you should need auxiliary aids or other assistance due to a disability, please contact the Office of the County Administrator at (540) 864-5010 at least five (5) days in advance of the public hearing.

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Candidates should send a current resume along with a completed employment application to Monroe Health Center, Attn: Stephanie Aliff, HR Director, P. O. Box 590, Union, WV 24983. We value diversity in backgrounds and experiences. Monroe Health Center is an equal opportunity employer. Learn more about us, visit www.monroehealthcenters.com

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Additional dates will be set if deemed necessary and advertised. By Order of the Craig County Board of Equalization.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The County of Craig, Virginia proposes to increase property tax levies.

- 1. Assessment Increase: Total assessed value of real property, excluding additional assessments due to new construction or improvements to property, exceeds last year's total assessed value of real property by 34.51 percent.
- 2. Lowered Rate Necessary to Offset Increased Assessment: The tax rate which would levy the same amount of real estate tax as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of real estate with the exclusions mentioned above, would be \$0.456 per \$100 of assessed value. This rate will be known as the "lowered tax rate."
- 3. Effective Rate Increase: The County of Craig proposes to adopt a tax rate of no greater than \$0.52 per \$100 of assessed value, which is currently over the current tax rate. The difference between the lowered tax rate and the proposed rate would be approximately \$0.044 per \$100, or approximately 9.98 percent. This difference will be known as the "effective tax rate increase."

Individual property taxes may, however, increase at a percentage greater than or less than the above percentage.

4. Proposed General Government Total Budget Increase: Based on the proposed real property tax rate and changes in other revenue, the total General Government budget of the County of Craig is estimated to exceed last year's amended budget by approximately 9.98 percent based on the tax rate change.

A public hearing on the increase will be held on the 21st day of March 2024, at the Craig County Court House, New Castle, Virginia 24127, at 5:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.



ABC NOTICE

Sunset Grille at Ashley Plantation Inc. trading as Sunset Grille and Catering, 2414 Country Club Rd. Troutville, VA. 24175-3920

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail On and Office Premise Wine. Beer, and Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Donald Sutliff, Owner

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

ABC NOTICE

ICHIBAN STEAKHOUSE & SUSHI BAR DALEVILLE LLC., trading as ICHIBAN STEAKHOUSE & SUSHI BAR DALEVILLE, 470 Roanoke Road, Daleville, Botetourt County, Virginia, 24083-3020

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail Wine, Beer, Mixed Beverage On and OFF Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Qiang Jiang, Owner

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and

reservations of record which affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Deed Book 274 at Page 265.

Tax Map No. 109-220B Account No. 16272

All that certain lot, piece, or parcel of real property, lying and being situate in Botetourt County, Virginia and being more particularly described as follows, to-wit: BEGINNING at an iron pin on the northwest corner of the property now or formerly owned by Gordon Lee

Edwards and Elsie D. Edwards, corner to property now or formerly of V. G. Ferris and N and W Railway Co. right-of-way; thence S. 66° 13' 20" E. 325 feet to an iron pin; thence S. 32° 01 10" W. 200.79 feet to an iron pin; thence N. 52° 52 10" W. 335.41 feet to an iron pin; thence N. 37° 44' E. 124.94 feet to the place of beginning and being Tract "A" and containing 1.222 acres, more or less all as shown on plat of survey by John T. Parker, C. L. S., dated November 3, 1981, a copy of which is of record in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia in Deed Book 274 at Page

263.

And being a portion of the real property conveyed to Gordon L. Edwards and Elsie D. Edwards, husband and wife, as tenants by the entirety from Henry V. Edwards and Linda R. Edwards, divorced by Deed dated February 18, 1993 and recorded April 1, 1993 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia in Deed Book 429 at Page 625. This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which

affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Deed Book 274 at Page 265.

IT APPEARING that an Affidavit has been made

Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before April 12, 2024 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of

Botetourt, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.

I Ask For This: Seth R.Konopasek, Esq. (VSB No. 97065) John A Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805) Jeffrey A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591) Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409) Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372) Paul L LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609) Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158) Garrett W. Patton, Esq. (VSB No. 98345) Taxing Authority Consulting

Services, PC P.O. Box 31800, Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800 Phone: (804) 864-0080 Facsimile: (804) 545-2378 TACS No.: 924036

Entered on the 5th day of March,2024. The Honorable Tommy L. Moore, Clerk

Legals - City of Radford

TRUSTEES SALE

PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN: West Ward of the City of Radford, Virginia Containing 0.2479 acres, more or less

Commonly Known as: 1002 West Main Street, Radford, Virginia

IN EXECUTION OF A CERTAIN DEED OF TRUST OF RECORD IN THE CLERKS OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF RADFORD CITY, VIRGINIA, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 201100838, DATED AUGUST 29, 2011 WHEREAS, BY DEED OF BARGAIN AND SALE AND ASSUMPTION DATED SEPTEMBER 1, 2016, RECORDED IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE AS INSTRUMENT SALE WILL BE MADE SUBJECT TO ALL EXISTING EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS AS THE SAME MAY LAWFULLY AFFECT THE REAL FSTATE TERMS OF SALE: CASH, SETTLEMENT WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF SALE. A BIDDERS DEPOSIT OF TEN PERCENT (10%) MAY BE REQUIRED

PLACE OF SALE: FRONT OF RADFORD CITY COURTHOUSE AT 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA

DATE OF SALE: MARCH 29 2024 TIME OF SALE: 10:00 A.M.

Daniel D. Hamrick, PC Substitute Trustee

By: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent For Daniel D. Hamrick, PC

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent Daniel D. Hamrick, P.C. 104 South Franklin Street Christiansburg, VA 24073 (540) 382-0131

Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given

to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, March 25, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM VIRGINIA: 1. Consider the request of E3MAG LLC, property owner, for rezoning the property located at 744 Electric Road (Tax Map #

states that the rear yard setback for the principal structure in the RSF **Residential Single Family** zoning district is 25 feet.

106-202.3(B)(1)

At this hearing, all parties in interest will be given an opportunity to be heard, present evidence, and show cause why such requests should or should not be granted. For additional information, contact the Office of the Zoning Administrator, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia (Phone 3753032). THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEMBY: Mary Ellen H. Wines, CZA, CFM Planning & Zoning Administrator

Legals -Montgomery County

Order of Publication Commonwealth of Virginia

VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316,20-104 Case No.CL23001822-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1 CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re BRENDA MARIÉ BRIDGES v. SCOTT THOMAS BRIDGES The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that SCOTT THOMAS BRIDGES appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MAY 8TH, 2024.

Signed March 5, 2024 Robert M.D. Turk, Judge

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104 Case No.CL24000402-00 MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re JOHANNA RENEE PHILLIPS v. MICHAEL DWAYNE PHILLIPS.

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GENERAC







PAGE 8 · WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024 · THE NEW CASTLE RECORD



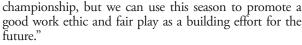
Rockets open soccer season this week with new coach

The Craig County soccer team was scheduled to open the season this week with a game at Buffalo Gap on Monday evening.

The Rockets have a new coach this year as Joel Peterson takes over the reigns. Team captains are Sean Cady and Ava Greenway and other returnees include Sarah Hickson, Tanner Owens, Colby Wolfe, Montana Stein and Isaiah Nichols. Newcomers to the varsity are Noah Brierly, Elijah Green, Sean Villar, Aiden Crawford, Desiree Will and Austin Fowler. Several other players are possible but had not committed to the team at press time.

"Our goals for the season are to work hard but always have fun while maintaining great attitudes," said Peterson. "We don't have any illusions of winning a state





The Rockets are in Covington to take on the Boys' Home on Thursday, followed by a trip to Narrows after spring break, on April 2nd. The first home game is Friday, April 5th, when the Rockets host Buffalo Gap.



Sean Cady(#14) and Ava Greenway(#9) are the captains of the 2024 Craig County High School soccer team.

RECORD FILE PHOTOS

Craig baseball and softball teams play this week in final action before spring break begins

This will be a busy week for the Craig County baseball and softball teams in the final week before the Rockets take off for spring break.

Both the baseball and softball teams were scheduled to have their home openers on Monday against Glenvar. Results were too late for publication as both teams hoped for revenge after dropping their season openers at Glenvar a week prior.

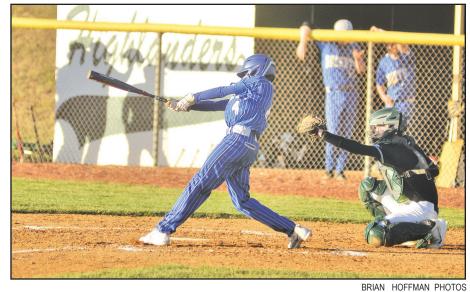
On Thursday the varsity baseball and junior varsity softball teams will both be playing doubleheaders at Highland County. Both are scheduled to begin at 4 pm.

The softball team will be participating in the fourteam James River Bash on Saturday at the Botetourt Sports Complex in Troutville. At 10 am the Rockets will play James River while Salem plays Riverheads. The two winners will play for the championship at 2 pm and the morning losers will play for third place at the same time. There will also be jayvee games at noon and 4 pm but Craig County is not participating in the jayvee event.

This week will be the last games for Craig County teams until after next week's spring break.



Kallie Fisher bats for the Rockets in last week's game at Glenvar. The girls will be playing in the James River Bash in Troutville this Saturday.



Cameron Huffman takes a cut for Craig. The Rockets will play a doubleheader at Highland County Thursday.

Golf Tournament is benefit to police officer

The 13th annual City of Salem Benefit Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, June 1st, at the Salem Municipal Course on Academy Street. This year's tournament proceeds will go to Salem Police officer Brian Stump, who was diagnosed with throat cancer in December.

Stump has been with the Salem Police Department since December of 2000, serving the citizens of Salem in the Animal Control Division. He was appointed to the rank of Sergeant in February of 2019.

Cost of the tournament is \$40 per person or \$160 for a team of four. The 18 hole tournament(you go around twice) includes lunch at 11:30 am as well as prizes and refreshments. Tee times will be at 8:30 am and 1:30 pm.

Entry deadline is May 25 and the registration fee must be sent with all entry forms, which are available at the course clubhouse. Make checks payable to Salem Parks & Recreation and send your entry form to Chuck Johnston at 601 Academy Street in Salem.

Businesses and individuals can also place signs at the tee boxes for \$100, and all proceeds got to Sgt. Stump. Interested persons are also urged to donate items for a raffle.

For more information or to sign up to play or be a sponsor call Chuck Johnston at 540-392-9445.

Sox Fest is at Salem Memorial Ballpark Saturday

The annual Sox Fest will be held this Saturday, March 23rd, at Salem Memorial Ballpark, the home of the Salem Red Sox.

The event begins at 11 am and goes until 2 pm and will included food and activities for all ages as the 2024 Carolina League season draws near. Some of the activities include a Mechanical Bull, a Speed Pitch Machine, Face Painting, and Obstacle Course, a Balloon Artist, a DJ with a Photobooth and much more.

Season ticket holder can pick up their tickets at this time, or fans



can also purchase season tickets Saturday.

The Red Sox season will open April 5 at home against the Carolina Mudcats.



All-Region Rockets

Two Craig County basketball players have been named to the All-Region 1C team. Freshman Kailyn Jones(#4) has been named to the girls' allregion second team and senior Matthew Lucas(#1) was named to the boys' all-region second team. This is the second year in a row Lucas has been named second team all-region, and he was a first team All-Pioneer selection for three years in a row. Jones was named first team All-Pioneer in her first season on the team.

